

THE CRUEL SECRETARY AND THE PATRIOTIC CONTRACTOR.

Secretary Whitney.—"I can't accept your ship until we have tried her again. Step on board, sir——"

J. R.—" Step on board! No, sir, never! My life is entirely too valuable to the nation. Cut down the bill, and call it square!"

PUCK.

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CARTOONS AND COMMENTS.

A nd in the afternoon they came unto a land

Wherein it seemed always afternoon.

Or anyway There was a pale, dull, chill, uncomfortable And cussed post-meridianity about it-

And old Danaos, the high priest (Old Charles A. Timeo Danaos) rose And, lifting up his withered arms to heaven, Spake thus:

"So far, through many weary years, Yea, through a quarter of a century's space, And something over, so far have we come; And now behold, the Promised Land ahead Gleams fair and fruitful, pleasant to the eye, And reeking with rich offices. Yea, I see Afar that shining custom-house, for which, Not getting it, I came into your ranks. How bright it seems! How fairly shine its walls!

How high its dome against the azure sky-

But oh, how far, how far!

The Right prevails—
But how about the Left? We are the Left, My brethren. Lo the rosy cloud of power Sweeps on ahead, a pillar of bright flame; And we have missed the train.

Good Kellyos, The children of our faith are entering in Unto their habitation; we alone, Who led them, must, the victims of a curse Cruel and un-Jeffersonian, linger here, And wail the halcyon Democratic days Of Office, Office!

There the power That bars us out sits in the White House door, Implacable, immovable, secure. Oh, clear your dusty throats, your ancient voices Lift up once more, lift up in one tremendous Old Jeffersonian curse on what hath wrought This woe immeasurable — this is Civil Service

Cuss with the strength of all your empty hearts, And I will lead the chorus." And they cussed.

Reform!-oh, cuss it once, before we die,

The spectacle of a Secretary of the Navy demanding that a contract-built ship shall be put through a second trial-trip is one that must fill the bosoms of all contractors with a deep and abiding horror. Civil Service Reform was something which we had all learned to expect from the new administration, but this naval service reform is a step beyond the calculations of the average man. It is not to be wondered at that Mr. Roach is astonished at such obstinacy on the part of Mr. Whitney. And when the new Secretary of the Navy kindly presses upon Mr. Roach an invitation to go to sea in his own vessel, we fancy that the shipbuilder's astonishment will deepen into terror. United States dispatch-boats look well; but, as a rule, they do not float well-that is, for any extended period.

In his relations with other ship-builders, Mr. Roach will have to enact a part similar to that of the Sergeant of police in the "Pirates of Penzance." It will be remembered by those who are familiar with the opera that when the police find themselves brought face to face with the duty of going forth to demolish the pirates, they remark in concert: "We cannot understand it at all." Then the Sergeant says: "We should have thought of that before we joined the force." And the men respond: "We should." The Sergeant remarks: "Now it is too late"; and the men answer in a deep, sepulchral bass: "It is." So Mr. Roach remarks to all other ship-builders and contractors who may be engaged in work for the Navy Department: "We should have thought of this before we undertook the jobs"; and they answer: "We should." Then Mr. Roach sighs: "But now it is too late"; and they groan: "It is." The winter which has just ended, somewhat behind time, has been very hard on the poor; but the spring looks unpromising for those who become rich on naval contracts.

The United States Navy will stand a great deal of building. There is room on the ocean for a good many ships, and at the present writing those of the land of the free and home of the brave are not crowding out those of the other nations of the earth to any appreciable extent. Hitherto the labors of naval contractors have not tended in that direction, because their ships refused, with great earnestness and unbroken regularity, to remain upon the face of the waters. Mr. Whitney does not seem to care much about the bottom of the sea. He wants vessels that he can see without going down in a diving-bell. Heretofore money appropriated for the navy has speedily become a sinking fund. Mr. Whitney might prefer even a floating debt to this.

The fact of the matter is that we have, through the wisdom and integrity of Mr. Cleveland, secured an honest Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Whitney is a business-man and a lawyer. He has plenty of money, and proposes not only to investigate the department of which he is the head, but to spend some of his private income in the work. This is the most remarkable announcement that has ever been made in the marine history of this country. A man who will do this will be desperately, hopelessly, miserably honest. And as for Mr. Whitney's ability to handle the Navy Department, we think no one need have any fears. He was one of the chief members of the amusement committee of the Metropolitan Opera House; and after his success in keeping that institution above water, there can be no doubt of his ability to make the navy float.

OCCASIONALLY A MAN tries to pick up an empty pocketbook on the sidewalk, and when he almost has his hand on it, the boy behind the tree pulls the cord and runs, and the man knows it is the first of April. This little event impresses on him the day fifty times as distinctly as could a soft mellow sky, a bunch of violets, a spray of arbutus, or a shad-bone firmly wedged in his throat. There are many things that fool a man on the first of April: but there is one thing that doesn't, and that is PUCK'S ANNUAL. You can buy it any day in the year without being sold. It is always the same, and never gets down to nothing, like a fancy stock, or your woodpile when you are absent.

Price twenty-five cents per copy.

For sale by all news-dealers.

GO A LITTLE EASY, CHARLES!



Puck.—"Mr. Dana, you have lately condemned the portraits published in Puck and other periodicals; but were we ever guilty of anything like this?"

A MOTHER'S PRAYER.



Fwhy do me hot tears fall upon dhe shtones?
(Cowld are dhe shtones what chill dhe tears.) Fwhy is dhe heart o' me all full o' moans? (Loud are dhe moans an' deeper are me fears.)

Fwhy does me 'baccy taste loike cabbige-leaves? (Sorra dhe day dhat iver I was born.)
Fwhat is the r'ason dhat me ould sowl grieves?
(Sorra dhe day dhat I was lift forlorn.)

Bekase wid wurk me ould back musht be bint:
(Wurra! the poipe's out—no more Oi'll shmoke.)
Me Jimmy to dhe Oiland for six months is sint:
(Wurra! Oi wish dhat Judge Duffy's head was broke.)
W. J. H. Bekase wid wurk me ould back musht be bint:

JOSEPHUS'S MELODRAMA.

The soft refulgence of a single gaslight was illuminating the box-office of a theatre up-town. A young man with a placid smile and a darkblue necktie was sitting upon a high stool, playing absent-mindedly with the pieces of a letter asking for seats which he had just torn up. Suddenly a footstep was heard in the lobby, and the young man looked up. He saw another young man with a bashful countenance and lobster-colored hair approaching.

"Why, Ptarximander," said the youth in the box-office: "is that you?"
"Yes, Josephus," answered the young man of the blushful hair: "it is I."

"Come inside and sit down."

Thus invited, Ptarximander walked into the box-office and seated himself.

"Now, then, my fertile-minded gosling," said

Josephus: "what is troubling you?"
"See here, Josephus," said Ptarximander:
"I'm getting tired of asking you to stop calling
me names. If you don't leave off I shall get

me names. real mad." "Well, I'll stop. Now go ahead."

"Josephus, I am going to write a play." Josephus leaped down off his stool, and looked Ptarximander in the eyes. Then he reached for the messenger-call.

"What are you going to do?" inquired Ptarximander.

"Ring for an ambulance. I knew it-I feared The last spark of reason has deserted your

poor head, and you are insane."
"Don't be funny," pleaded Ptarximander: "but give me some advice about writing a play."

"What kind of a play is it to be?"
"A melodrama."

"Then you have come to the right shop for advice. If there ever was a man boiling over with melodramatic notions, I am that man. You want some ideas for sensations, I suppose?" "Yes, that's it. I've always noticed that the ends of the acts in melodrama had to be mighty

lively."

"You are right. I believe you are sane yet.

Now listen to me. The first thing you want to do when you start a melodrama is to get up a high-toned, polished villain. You want to give him fine clothes and a big watch-chain, patentleather boots, a pair of kid-gloves, and a brandnew three-dollar-and-ninety-cent silk hat. Then he must have a face that a blind man wouldn't trust in a railroad-tunnel after dark. In melo-dramas the villains always dress well, but look like fiends. Then you want to provide him with a victim. A beautiful gyurl, nursed in the lap of luxury and fed on caramels fresh every hour. This beautiful gyurl ought to be as rich as Henry Hilton and as proud as the editor of a Kansas newspaper. Then she must have a poor, but apparently dishonest lover, and a stuck-up old pa, who doesn't go much on the aforesaid lover. The lover ought to be a horse-car inspector or an elevator-boy-something that will make him great intellectually and vice versa financially. His apparent dishonesty arises from the frequent disappearance of lead-pipe from the building in which he works just about the time he goes home. The villain, who has an office in the building, gets on to this, and tells the gyurl's father that Robert —the young man—is plotting to become a plumber and ruin him. The old man naturally trembles in his boots, and goes in with the villain to put up a job on the young man. The villain then steals a little lead-pipe himself, and going by night to the young man's room on the East River shore at Williamsburgh—there's a splendid moonlight view of the city for you sews the pipe up in the leg of the young man's dress-trousers. Then with a detective he lies in wait for the young man, and the two pounce upon him just as he is struggling to get his foot through the leg of the trousers. The accusation is made, and the young man, feeling the lead in his trousers, says:

"'Great Heavens! It is fate!""

"Then they lead him away to his dungeon on one leg. In the next act we see him on the Island. The gyurl, under pretense of visiting the insane patients, comes to see him, and there's your chance for a big love-scene, ending

"'Jerusha, you do not—cannot believe me guilty of this foul crime?"

"'No, Robert, I love you, and I believe you

are guiltless.' (Throws herself upon his bosom.)
"Then they are torn apart by ruthless minions of the law. That night Robert escapes and goes to fight the Mahdi in the Soudan. Big scene of boats ascending Nile cataractsnew sensation, never done before-and chance for daisy effects in the desert. Robert rescues from the murderous fire of the Arabs a Canadian naturalized bank-cashier, who confides to him the fact that he - the cashier-was the partner of the polished villain in the robbery of the bank in New York where they both worked. Robert buys his discharge and hastens back to New York, arriving just in time to hurl the proofs of the villain's villainy into his face at the foot of the altar, and prevent his marriage with the gyurl. The old man weakens, and, finding that Robert never stole any lead-pipe, and never was likely to become a plumber, being only a corporal, gives him his blessing, the gyurl and three millions of trade-ducats. How's that for a melodrama?"

"Josephus, I don't think I'll write a melodrama as long as you live."

W. J. HENDERSON.

A MAN STARTED, a few days ago, to kill an editor in Indiana, and people afterwards wondered why the editor gave him such a good obituary.

Puckerings.



No MORE the field is white, All the days are getting bright, And I run along the meadow For to fly my yellow kite.

I 've put away my sled, And the skates on which I sped All about the glassy lakeled On my feet and on my head.

Now I spin my boxwood top,
An I I play at "par" and hop,
Skip and jump along the sidewalk,
And I don't know when to stop.

I see-saw down and up
On the fence, and stone the pup
Just to scare him, and go flying In the airy orchard " scup.

Soon I 'll rob the blue-bird's nest When the trees are blossom-drest, And the ice-man's growing haughty, And the plumber is depressed.

I shall fall from leafy trees In the daisy-dappled leas,
And while playing games of marbles
From my trousers wear the knees.

Then hurrah for balmy S-g When the birds are on the wing, And the berry-speckled May-wine Supersedes the old g-n-s-g.

Now my heart is just as light
As my pretty yellow kite,
That goes mounting to the cloudlets
Till it's almost out of sight.

I shall close my little song-To continue would be wrong, For I hear a blast of music, And the circus comes along.

In the coming summer it will be fashionable for fishermen to use United States men-of-war for sinkers.

THE UTICA Observer says, "Henry Watterson is holding himself down very successfully."
Let us see. Wasn't it John Phænix who held down his adversary by inserting his nose between his teeth?

Brass-Bands on skates now lead the grand marches in some of the skating-rinks. This is as it should be. It will probably put an end to brass-bands or to the skating-rinks, and perhaps to both. Let the good work go on.

THE LEGISLATURE of Alabama has passed an act prohibiting State, county and municipal offiact promoting state, county and municipal officers from getting drunk. After awhile the Legislature will probably pass a law against county officers going gunning for a political opponent with a shot-gun loaded full of slugs. There appears to be danger of a man being compelled to give up all his personal libraty when he are to give up all his personal liberty when he accepts office in Alabama.

TO A WELL-KNOWN WORK OF ART.



More than mortal make I know her. Not alone by eyes serene, Nor the regal brows that lower, Or the grand Junonian mien,

Face familiar, bland and tender, Loved by all for beauty's sake, I will tell thee what 's the splendor Shows thee more than mortal make.

'Tis thy hair's symmetric crinkles, "Tis thy sweetly vacuous gaze, And thy gown that never wrinkles, Twisted round in various ways.

Ne'er was earthly woman like thee-Ne'er will be, though ages wait-This I think whene'er I strike thee, Beauty in the fashion-plate!

VANITAS VANITATUM.

What a disappointing life is ours! What a worm-i'-the-bud, whited-sepulchre existence! If we have a gazelle, he gets out; if we have a dear friend, he doesn't invite us to his swellest party. If we enthrone a great hero, straightway his biography is written by his hired-girl; and he is a hero no longer. If we worship a noble warrior, he goes to St. Louis, and, in trying to assume command of that sturdy hamlet, is ignominiously worsted. Such is this disappointing life where our images are broken, where our eidolons fall off the mantel and get their legs cracked; where everything in turn goes up the flume; everything, everything. That is, everything except the flume. The flume is still secure.

Sometimes I think I will give up hope and settle down for a good time. We are constantly seeing the dead form of some old belief borne before us on a shutter. Shakspere was somebody else, probably Ann Eliza Rugg. Mr. Burchard, whom we venerated so blindly be-fore that terrible day when we first heard of him-he has gone about to expound a four-Rugg: "is but an ass if he go about to expound his dream." Dickens was the friend of Forster, and Napoleon thought "le Cid" a great play. William Tell was expelled from a Hobber archer all before a left friend on the control of the boken archery club for deficiency in targetpractice. In the old days, we thought a President of this country must be a statesman: we have seen Rutherford. We considered a popular novelist as a sort of demigod set apart from the ordinary, everyday plugs of mankind; and we have lived to find the barriers burned away.

But, in spite of growing skepticism, I still had faith in one man - Thackeray. I did not pose as a sarcastic interrogation-point at the end of his observations; I supinely accepted them. Heaven knows how many fallacies I have thus absorbed. At last I came to a statement which, by its glaring falsity, awakened me to my situation. When I made this discovery, I felt like the chalk-faced husband of tragedy who finds that in the delicious sickroom beverages prepared for him there is a strong infusion of the baleful herb popularly known as deadly poison, and that the loving wife who presents the cup is not loving him, but the hired-man or the gentleman with the long cloak and coney goatee. Afterwards he somewhat ostentatiously tastes the potion before drinking. After this I shall thoroughly test Mr. Thackeray's remarks before storing them away in the weak side of my brain, which

I have reserved for truth.

What he said is this: "The present age offers greater encouragement to literature than the past. Poor authors are no longer obliged to await in antechambers an audience with my lord, on the chance of obtaining a few paltry guineas for a fulsome dedication; now they sell their wares to the enterprising publisher in manly fashion; and they receive as much for their labor as men of equal abilities in other

callings."

This is Thackeray's proposition, and with all its absurdity I should have accepted it in my old, unquestioning way; but by good luck, for so I now consider it, I was an author myself, and better yet, I was a poor author. I had written a "new" novel-scathing, powerful, scalpel, microcosm shafts of lightning wit, etc., which, in honor of my hero, Thackeray, who called one of his books after a brand of to-bacco, I had named "The Marmalade Plug; or, Look for the Primrose Tag." From my corner of advantage I was prepared to see the atrocity of Thackeray's statement. We poor authors are fortunate because, instead of bartering away our self-respect for a few paltry guineas, we strike a business bargain with the publisher, and receive in manly fashion a fair reward. Because forsooth and woe worth the world, it is no such thing. The open-faced, independent deal for poor authors is about this:

The author pays for printing and half the advertising. The expense of the other half is cheerfully assumed by the publisher. As the other half is never done, of course this cheerfulness is hearty and unfeigned. Having been duly paid in advance, the manly publisher prints the book with courageous enterprise, and sells two thousand copies on the strength of the author's advertising. It is only at this late period that the monopolistic royalty of the author begins. By a marvelous but unfortunate coincidence, it is also at this juncture that the nineteenth-century publisher and fosterer of talent quits selling the book, and scans the horizon for another deserving genius with an-other seven hundred dollars. Would not the poor author then be charmed to find a man who wished to exchange fulsome guineas for a hornets' nest we thought there were over a n paltry dedication? Would he not be glad to lion of them, and that they were all loaded.

wait for him even in antechambers? He would be simply delighted. But, alas! there is no such man. No, not much; I have been look-

ing for him.

In this golden age of literature we poor authors fulsomely dedicate our books to our affectionate Uncle Henry, or to our life-long friend J. T. Wiggins; and they pay us not in the abasing guinea, but in deep reverence and respect. They say in the family circle, "Jim's been writing another book," and the only live interest they show is manifested when they sneak around to see people read the inscrip-

According to Thackeray, poor authors should receive as much as men of like abilities in other professions; but some day our Uncle Henry and our life-long friend J. T. W., by a double play of stupidity, get on the right side of the market with a million sets of pigs' feet, clear up thirty thousand dollars, and afterwards look down upon poor authors from a height which the insufferable lordlings could never have imagined. They lend their patronage to no books, except those in gorgeous binding, using, in their choice of a library, the same form of taste which they bring to bear in choosing what they consider an equal necessity—a "hand-painted" cuspidor for the drawing-room.

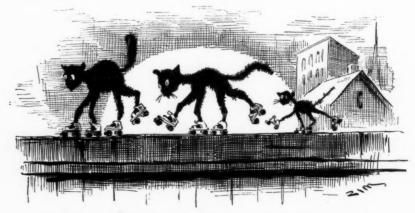
All this shows the great Thackeray's fallibility. Whatever may have been his domestic virtues, he was certainly not in any practical sense a man of letters. In sober truth, ordinary authors are not paid as well as ordinary men in other professions. And this is simple justice. Ordinary authors should be punished, not re-warded; and other ordinary men should receive some discriminating acknowledgement of the good taste which prompts them to confine obnoxious mediocrity to the private circle.

"A cow, PROPERLY labeled, was among the bridal presents received at a wedding in Sullivan County." The bride was a milkman's daughter, and the cow was probably labeled as a means of identification.

THE TENPENNY-NAIL falleth in the highway and maketh a loud noise, and is known among men; but the carpet-tack standeth upon his head in the silent spaces of the night, and getteth in his fine work upon the soles of the just and the unjust. Selah!

A WRITER SAYS he has counted fifteen thousand cells in a single hornets' nest. This will indicate how pain stimulates a man's imagina-The last time we counted the cells in a hornets' nest we thought there were over a mil-

WE KNEW IT WOULD COME TO THIS.



THE ROLLER CRAZE IS BREAKING OUT IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

International Distinctions.-No. I.



The Fair American has a Spool of Thread Delivered at Her Residence,

A MODEL COOKERY-BOOK

We have received from Harper's a new work on culinary science to which we would call our readers' attention. It is entitled "One Thousand Good Recipes," and is hand-

Good Recipes," and is handsomely bound in pale pink—just the color to show off a nice grease-spot. The author's name is not disclosed. We are sorry, because we want to know that author. We want to look at him or her just once. The mere sight would deprive a man of the fear of death. But for the book.

Here is a specimen of its profound lore:

To determine the freshness of meats you buy of your butchers, smell them.

Suppose the butcher won't be smelt, what are you going to do about it? Again the sapient author says:

Never buy meats in the evening.

What's a fellow to do, then, after 5 P. M.? Beg, borrow or steal from his tradesmen? The rule may be good, economically; but it is awful bad ethics.

Another piece of advice which should be stuffed and put in a glass-case is:

Don't let matches fall into your cooking utensils. They give an unpleasant flavor.

11

We have never before heard nor known that matches were so employed. The statement opens our eyes. The bad soup Brown gave us last week was due to suiphur; the stew at the Harvard dinner owed its peculiar flavor to phosphorous or chloric acid. There is also a remarkable originality in the statement that matches "give an unpleasant flavor." We thought hitherto that they produced gastritis, enteritis, peritonitis and that other "itis" vulgar folks call death. But either we were wrong, or else we did not know the entire truth, They give an unpleasant flavor. There is a mild suspicion of Mr. Henry Bergh about the injunc-

Keep croton-bugs and ants carefully away from the sugar and spice-boxes.

There is no mention, it will be seen, of the bread-tin, the ice-

box and the pantry. Here, presumably, the festive insect may disport to his heart's content.

There are, of course, a hundred recipes based upon the famous New England rule for making bread.

Take a few handfuls of flour, add some milk and a little more water, put in some salt, a little sugar, a chunk of butter, and a quantity of yeast. Let it stand, knead it, let it rise, and bake it till done.

Upon this mathematical formula, New England made bread until the whole population, native and foreign, rose up and deserted the staff of life for pie.

Our author has perhaps sinister designs upon the articles named. We heartily commend the book to our readers. W. E. S. F.

Carefully around his top
The urchin winds the string;
He sees the fast approaching "cop,"
But wants just one more sling;
He lets it go with might and main—
It is his farewell shoot,
For through a basement window-pane
The top doth gaily scoot.

THEY SAY that ex-Senator William Sharon is engaged to be married to a Boston girl, It is wicked to kick a man when he is down.

International Distinctions.-No. JI.



The Daughter of Sunny Italy Does Her Own "Parcels-Delivery." Business.

OYSTERS AND HAIR-OIL.

A WRITER SAYS: "Humorists are born like other men and die like other men." The first part of this is a fact, and the last has a good

deal of truth in it, for we have known a number of instances where men who were not humorists starved to death.

A NURSERY-MAN says that the best kind of dogwood is the red flowering. Our experience is that a clothes-pole is the best, because it is light enough to handle easily, and long enough to enable you to hit the dog at almost any range.

"How can I always win money at poker?" writes an anxious subscriber to a Western editor.

"How do I know?" replied the journalist: "If I could do that, do you suppose I'd be fool enough to edit a newspaper?"

Through fear of death, many Japanese parents give their children names which belong to the other sex. It is the mistake of her life-time that Dr. Mary Walker was not born in Japan.

A YOUNG WOMAN recently fell dead in a Winchester, Va., rink from heart-disease. Most cases of heart-disease contracted in rinks result in elopements rather than death,

It is said that Mark Lemon could remember every joke that had been in *Punch* for twenty-four years. It couldn't have taxed his brains much.

"STRAWBERRIES ARE now to be had in increased quantities," says a market report. We are willing to bet that the quantity is not increased in any one box.

"NEVER EAT a very hearty supper" says a writer. In order to avoid temptation, board at a fashionable boarding-house.

THE LITTLE that man wants here below and wants long must be the straw in a mint-julep.

DECADENCE OF THE BANG.



E away and back to day
From woody wilds that northward lay,
I 'm puzzled quite and want some light
Upon the dear girls' latest flight.

For Maud and May, who yesterday Peeped out from 'neath a blond array, And Belle and Pet, whose thatch of jet Are matched in my vest-pocket yet;

And Madam, e'en, who smiled serene In frontispiece of grayish green, Have cast aside their hirsute pride, And show their foreheads high or wide,

Eschew cork-screws and 'Montagues,' And bandoline no longer use,

Nor 'Saratogas,' long in vogue as Fascinators, real or bogus.

For 'pompadour,' the great furore, Takes maids and matrons by the score, And in a trice 'tis 'rats and mice,' And tragacanth descends in price.

For bulging brows without a frowze Are all the latest craze allows, And o'er a roll locks blond or coal Are coaxed to take a backward stroll.

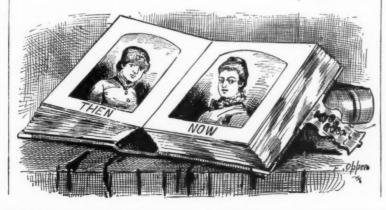
With no disguise above the eyes, Where wit supposititious lies, A difference we may plainly see 'Twixt tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

Not scalp-close clips nor shaven lips, Nor six nights' siege with poker-chips, Can alter so the youthful beau As these dear maids I used to know. I pass, alas! my best girl by, Nor note the lightning in her eye; My sister, too, I hardly knew With so much intellect in view.

Yet, 'tis n't bad, this latest fad To which the sirens seem run mad. When girls commence to 'show their sense,' There 's much to pay in consequence.

Eyes blue or jet can ne'er coquet So cruelly—can they, my pet?— Ne'er bid us fair, then mock despair, As underneath a bang of hair.

So men will smile, indulgent, while The fair apostle of the style Now takes the road with some such code As—' brains in ambush not la mode.' C. J. BARTLETT.



SOMERBY'S SUCCESS.



I never lag behind in my pursuit of the nimble and elusive dollar but I think of Silas Somerby, and straightway push on refreshed. In the hope that it may encourage some fellow-toiler, I will briefly set down the story of his great success

He began his busiess life in the employ of his father, in whose establishment he still remains, universally looked up to and honored by all whose position in the house is

inferior to his own. It was arranged, in the beginning, that he was to live at home, and that he was to receive a salary of ten dollars a week, half of which was to be deducted in payment of his board. His father designed thus not only to give his only son a good start, but to inculcate at the very outset sound principles of economy, and to accustom his offspring to the now almost obsolete practice of laying aside a certain fixed percentage of his income to meet living expenses

The son repaid the father's kindness with earnest effort, and at the end of six months he was one day summoned into his progenitor's pri-

vate office, and thus addressed:

"Silas, I have observed with great pleasure your diligent attention to business, and have decided to raise your salary in practical recognition of your increased value. After to-day you will draw fifteen dollars a week instead of ten, as heretofore. And, by-the-way," the father added, as Silas turned to go: "as your living will now be, naturally, upon an increased scale of expenditure more in keeping with your augmented income, I shall hereafter deduct ten dollars a week instead of five for your board."

Filled with a gratitude too deep for expression, Silas left the pater-

nal presence resolved to deserve his kindness or perish. He redoubled his efforts, and in six short months more he again stood, one day, by particular request, before his father, who said, with a broad smile of

satisfaction draped about his benevolent countenance:
"My boy, you are exceeding my fondest anticipations. Such endeavor as yours shall not go unrewarded. I have decided to raise your salary for the second time. Twenty-five dollars is the figure of the future, and may God bless you."

Here the old man paused; and in a voice trembling with genuine emotion Silas stammered forth his thanks. As he was leaving the room, his father added, without raising his head from some papers over which

he was busied:

"Oh, Silas, one thing more. I was about to add that this change in your circumstances will make a great difference in your mode of life. You will increase, and justly, too, your living expenses. You will eat more, drink more, sleep more, in fact, lead a broader and fuller life in every respect. I shall, therefore, charge you twenty dollars a week for board after this date. Good-morning."

In the next six months Silas surpassed himself, and boomed things to a perfectly phenomenal extent. He was not, consequently, wholly taken by surprise when he found on his desk one morning a note in his father's familiar hand. Hastily tearing open the envelope with hands trembling with pleasurable anticipation, he read as follows:

My Lear Son: - I cannot express to you my deep satisfaction in your wonderful progress, nor shall I try. Words are cheap, but cash is, in such cases, the most accomplished conversationalist. Continue your efforts at double your present salary. Inclosed please find ck. for this week.

Your affectionate

The inclosure bore in the lower right-hand corner the flowing signature of the senior Somerby, and in the upper left the symbol \$, followed by the figure 5. In an ecstasy of gratitude Silas pressed the letter to his lips. As he did so he observed the legend "Turn over" obscurely placed in the lower corner, and following instructions he read as follows:

P. S .- Your pecuniary circumstances are now such that you will no longer feel the need of economizing. A variety of mild extravagances, hitherto made inaccessible by limitations of income, are now within your grasp. You will feel like branching out in many directions. Men in your circumstances smoke fifteencent cigars, and drink wine - upon occasions. Their board sometimes costs them as high as forty-five dollars a week. Yours will cost you precisely that amount.

Stimulated by these practical proofs of parental pride, Silas fairly humped himself, so to speak, during the next year, and, despite the distracting influence of a large income, attended more strictly than ever to business. One day toward the end of the year he received a summons from his father, whom he found standing before the fire in his private office. Judge of his surprise when the good old man, laying his

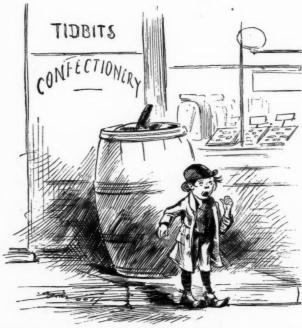
hand affectionately upon his son's shoulder, said:

"Silas, my boy, you have been doing nobly. I have long intended to more substantially reward your efforts than by mere words of praise, and I have decided to let that reward come in the form of a raise of salary. I am aware that a salary of one hundred dollars a week will place you in society to which your poor old father can hardly aspire. It will be your proud privilege to give suppers to the ballet, and to assist in booming the hack and liquor interests of this great metropolis. I, alas! on account of deficiencies of early training and education, and lack of funds, cannot tread these flowery paths with you; but the father is content to live again in the son, and to enjoy his triumphs in a back seat. I can scarcely hope," he continued, his voice trembling slightly, and a big tear rolling down his cheek: "to keep you at home with us any longer. Your new life will be at variance with our simple ways. You will, no doubt, feel like going to one of the principal hotels, and, perhaps, pay as much as ninety-five dollars a week for board. We cannot compete at home with the crockery-ware and silver they will give you there to eat, nor with the manifold discomforts of the place; but, my boy, we can give you good wholesome food, plainly served, and a

hearty welcome, at the same price, and, by Heaven, we will!"

And they did. And Somerby still has a place at their fireside, despite his altered circumstances. Happy in their son's success, the old folks never murmur, but put up with his late hours and altered way of life with a self-denying patience that is rare, indeed.

A RICH FIND.



"Hi, Tommy, run home an' fetch Tilly an' the baby; these ashes is chuck full er ice-cream!"

MILLY'S BABY.

I sometimes blush—because I am a bachelor and upon this occasion I blush to the roots of my hair.

It is all on account of Jacob Moolner Skinner. "Skinny" and I were boys together, and we lived next door. So did sweet little Milly Sniffles, and Milly and Skinny and I played at keeping house. But it was I who oftenest patted Milly's pink cheeks; and one day, when the birds sang the joyous melody of love and Skinny played at the further end of the lot, I asked Milly if she'd be my little wife. She answered:

"Yes, if you will be my husband."

The birds sang sweeter, the sun shone brighter, and Milly's little dot of a pink nose grew pinker, and Skinny—his grief was too deep for tears. We both felt sorry for Skinny, and spoke to him very gently. All that day we called him "Jakey" instead of "Skinny." But he wandered about the yard, refusing comfort, speaking no words, only flinging stones in a listless way at the swallows. The next day Skinny did not offer me a bite of his big apple; but he did Milly, and Milly opened her mouth so wide that not only the big apple, but her little pink nose, too, seemed in danger of dis-

appearing within.

But when Milly attempted to share the bigbig bite with me, Skinny snatched it and threw it upon the ground. I indignantly deny even now that it was the loss of the bite that fired my soul; it was the rudeness to Milly. But when I doubled up my fists and dared Skinny to touch me, Milly began to cry. I stopped to wipe Milly's eyes as accustomed, and Skinny scrambled over the fence into his own yard; there he made faces at me between the palings, and dared me to come out in the street for mor-

tal combat.

Ah, me! we outgrew our play-house—the great ocean caught me up in its tempestuous arms, and a whirling eddy bore me far, far away. Sweet little Milly Sniffles married Jacob Moolner Skinner. But here the poetic parallel ceases, for I cannot even imagine I was ever shipwrecked upon a tropic isle—the side of the world I drifted to is too cold for that—and if I ever put on a long-haired wig, and peeped through the window of Skinny's happy villa, and then crept away and died in the villagetavern, I do not know it.

But Jacob Moolner Skinner is responsible for

this blush.

He writes me to name his baby. And he writes as though I knew all about it, which I don't, or at least not so much, perhaps, as I do about the cut-rate wars on the moon and the infancy of the great-great-grandmother of Toa II., Queen of Quito. And he wholly neglects the trifling

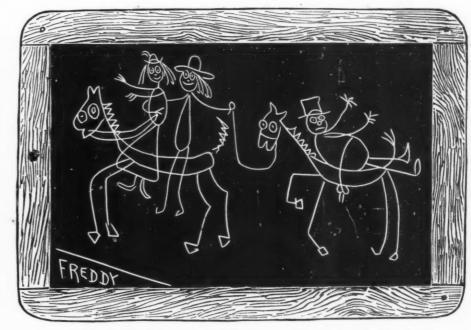
matter of sex.

He thinks, I suppose, that I don't know that babies soon get over their baldness, and then part their hair-same as other people do-in the middle or on the side, as the case may be. I may have labored under a bachelor delusion; still, I confess I have always thought that this point was somehow determined -that it was settled beyond the shadow of doubt before the name could be thought of. Upon reflection, however, I think it safest to not be too certain, and I therefore make reply in the noncommit-tal way that my diplomatic relation to the subject suggests:

My dear Jakey:—If I were a father or mother I should name it—well, I shouldn't name it a long name-I think I should name it-a short name. I should name it—well, something like—confound you! if you've found out whether it's a boy or a girl, why didn't you say so? But as I sit here before my cheerful fire, dreaming over your letter, old fellow, it seems like a voice from the far-away meadows. And I see an

FREDDY'S SLATE

AND HIS LITTLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR.



newyoarkmartchtherteywon

dear puck

i cend you this weke a car Toon four the forth chaptor Off my novvle all so the forth chapter

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wot caire i cride jiant jim with A deafient smile Four youer prowd pear off ingland i am miself The eaquel of enney nobelman in the

but continude The oled man

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* this is A shoart chaptor butt This is ritten for aperel fools daigh

old low, flat-roofed wood-shed, and three children seated upon it, where the shade of a sweetsmelling locust-tree lies cool and deep. The children loved to come there to watch the pan-orama of fleecy pictures in the clouds, and the fixed, dark and wilder ones of the woods beyond where the tree-tops touched the sky. Yes, I think I should name it-if it were my little boy-baby, I should name it Jakey. Or, if it were a little girl-baby-I should name it Milly. B. ZIM.

It is estimated that the jokes paragraphers have on hand, ready to spring at the first approach of the shad, correspond exactly in number to the bones of that deep sea fruit.

HENRY BERGH is solicitous regarding the fate of the dog which John Traynor took with him in his voyage across the ocean in a row-boat. It is believed the boat has been lost. The dog is said to have been quite valuable.

THERE IS one pleasant thing among the multitude of unpleasant things we continually read about. Thomas Flunk, of Missouri, who has let his beard grow since 1860, refusing to have it shaved until a Democratic President was inaugurated, visited a barber-shop the day after the inauguration. When he was relieved of his hirsute adornment and went home, he presented so homely a visage that his children hid from him, his dog bit him, and his wife has sued for a divorce. To end it all, the sudden exposure of his face to the weather gave him pneumonia, from which he died last week.

THE TRAGEDY OF THE SEASONS.

Spring, with Winter on her lap, Thought to make a fool of him, Deeming his untimely nap Too intensely cool of him.

Deftly, with her pruning-blade, Sharp as any cimeter, Severed she the locks that strayed Round his crown's perimeter.

Winter, marking this mishap, Did not rave dementedly, But in Spring's unwilling lap Nestled more contentedly.

"My employment's gone," he said:
"Till old Boreas blows again.
You can sit and hold my head, While my top-knot grows again."

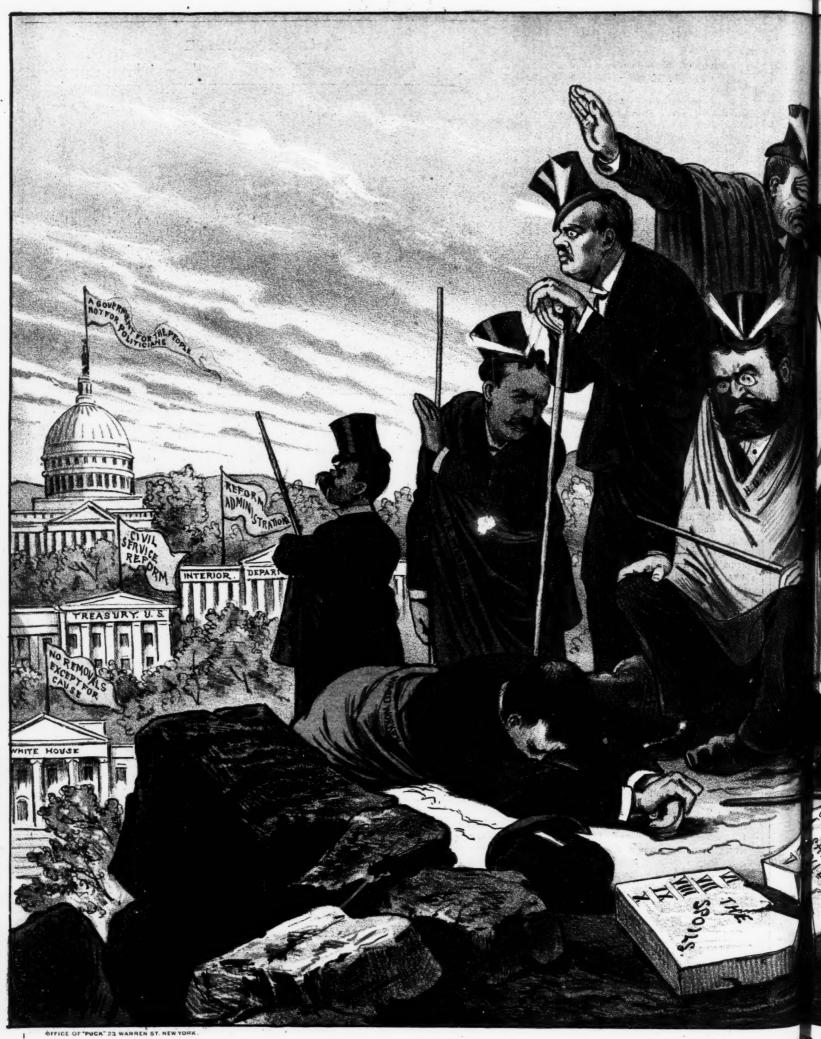
Summer died of cold, and Fall Had no leaves to shed for him. Sulky Spring sat through it all, Holding Winter's head for him! R. W. CLARKE.

Answers for the Anxious.

A. Gote.—If Artemus Ward had never been born you might have been original. But you could never have been funny.

R. WILDERSON.—It is good; but it doesn't shine in the heaven of literature with a lustre bright enough to dim the painful fact that it is old and weary, considered as a merry jest.

MIRANDA.—Yes, dear, the fair, bright young Spring has come; but that is no justification whatever for your poem. If you let the Spring alone, young woman, the Spring will let you alone



BARRED OUT FROM DISAPPOINTED DEMOCRATIC MOSES.—"



PROMISED LAND.
Going Through so Much to Get so Little?"

LUNGS AND LEGISLATORS.

It is beautiful to gaze upon the freshening loveliness of the spring; but it is still more beautiful, to those who have a taste for that sort of beauty, to gaze upon the conscientious legislator when he gets a virtuous fit upon him and refuses to waste the public money in riotous

breathing-places.

A noble animal, indeed, is the intermittently concientious legislator—the public man of any kind who is stricken with sudden and unexpected spasms of economy for the public good. The diagnosis of his disease is simple. His trouble is always due to a lack of Mike-and-Barneyism in the measure under consideration. It is a disease that he bears with patriotic fortitude. Although he is accustomed to making a free use of the people's money, and although the habits of a life-time are not readily overcome, he checks his liberal inclinations with a firm hand, and steadily refuses to permit the expenditure of a cent.

It is indeed a spectacle of Spartan virtue, the more interesting that it is but rarely to be en-joyed. The public should certainly forget any trifling disappointment it may feel at not get ting the park it has asked for, in contemplating the lofty nobility of its rulers. It may be a pleasant and wholesome thing to have a park; but how much better is it to have rulers who can submit with graceful fortitude to a severe

attack of disinterested economy!

Our rulers here in New York have been suffering severely in this way of late. Their grand struggles to keep themselves from spending their constituents' money on the proposed public reservation at Niagara Falls have been greatly appreciated in the most cultivated circles of hack-drivers and hotel-keepers.

And the agonies of heroism have spread to

other legislators, a noble few of whom are crushing down in their bold bosoms an almost irresistible inclination to provide this crowded city with new parks.

They know we want the new parks. We have told them so. We have shown them our crowded streets, our reeking tenement-houses, the gutters which serve as play-grounds for the children of our poor. They know well our needs and our sufferings. Some of them were poor men themselves—before they went into politics. But they rise high above the temptation to yield to such poor considerations. Anguished as they are, they will battle to the last against any attempt to waste the public money.

Let us not give way to our unchastened impulses and curse them. Let us respect their pains. The fatal disease of economy has taken an unwonted hold upon their strong constitutions. Let us look with profound respect upon the angelic sweetness with which they force themselves to be economical of our money, and yet live.

It is not often so. We may but infrequently cast admiring eyes upon such a spectacle. At the least, it is worth the price of admission. Perhaps it is even better than having the parks.

THE BOARD OF OVERSEERS OF Harvard College have refused to sanction the vote of the faculty that the quinquennial catalogue be written in English instead of Latin. This will have the effect of preventing college graduates from ever reading their own catalogue. Which looks to us like a hardship.

It is stated that Lionel Sackville West has large, sad blue eyes, and always looks weary. He is probably tired carrying his name around.

THE SEASON OF GUMS. (AFTER HOOD.)

Hail, Spring, thou gentle Spring! (I feel a draft coming through this floor.) The birds their songs of welcome sing; (I told you once to shut that door!) All Nature hails thee with delight, And seems to smile that thou art here; The brightest things grow still more bright.
(Who'd think't would snow this time of

year?)

I bid thee welcome once again, When thee I greet I bless the day; Cold Winter now will not remain, But in thy presence fade away; The trees all bloom on the hillside nigh, The grass grows greener on yonder knoll. (I wish you'd go down town by-and-by And order a ton of coal.)

Come with the fragrance of new-mown hay The bright green leaves we know you'll bring, And the birds will carol a roundelay To usher in the new-born Spring. How pleasant to feel Spring's balmy breath, And its many beauties to admire!

(Do you want me to sit here and freeze to death?

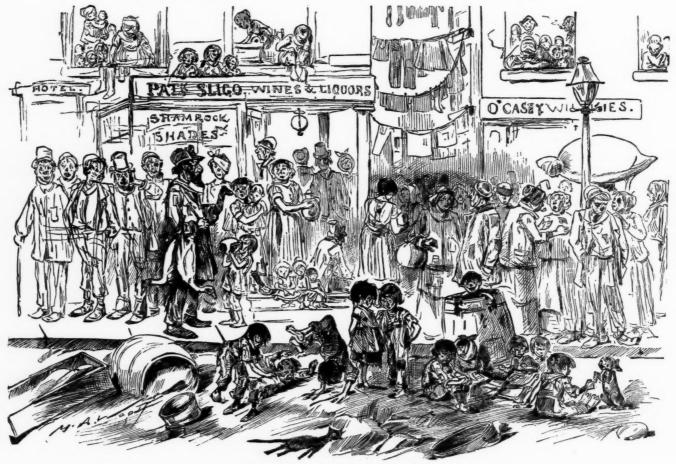
Why don't you go and shake down the fire?)

We know that thou wilt bring us joy; The heliotrope and mignonette, Roses and lilies—(confound that boy! Has he not brought that cough-syrup yet?) Come with the bright and sparkling dews, And the sunbeams that make the violets

sprout. (And bring me my ulster and overshoes-It is freezing hard, and I'm going out.)

C. J. NEWELL.

STREETS OF NEW YORK.-No.



THE HOMES OF THE MICROBES.

ANOTHER DYNAMITE OUTRAGE.

A Tale of a Truant in Three Chapters.



PREPARATION.



IN WAITING WITH A SLIPPER.



IMPROVED ADVERTISING.

We have frequently pointed out to the public various improvements in the practice of advertising. Advertisements are to be read; whatever makes them read is consequently of the highest good to the advertiser. Every reader peruses telegraphic news-items. A shrewd merchant should, therefore, devise telegraphic newsadvertisements. Here are a few samples:

A JUDGE ASSASSINATED.

ATHENS, March 31st.—Judge Goode was nearly assassinated by a crank yesterday in the court-room. The latter fired at him twice, but fortunately missed his mark. He was promptly arrested and put in a cell. When asked his motives, he replied that he couldn't help himself; that by mistake he had drunk three bottles of poisonous adulterated wine instead of Wine of the Steerage, which was his regular beverage.

A FIFTH AVENUE DIVORCE IN CONNECTICUT.

BRIDGEPORT, March 31st .- Hosea Perkins, a New York millionaire, has brought suit for absolute divorce against his wife Isabella, under the statute which allows the Vice-Chancellor to grant a decree "for any cause that to him may seem fit." Public sympathy is entirely against the husband, as among the acts of cruelty alleged in the bill is one that she habitually used Kartshorn's Patent Automatic Shade-rollers, which are universally known to be the best in the world.

A NEW MINISTER TO THE VATICAN.

WASHINGTON, March 31st .- Secretary Bayard said this morning that the President would probably appoint Mr. Chas. Piggins, of New York, the Minister to Rome. The President hopes by this action to diminish the frightful mortality in Rome and Naples, as Piggins's Irish Soap is the only article which will clean an average Italian.

W. E. S. F.

TWENTY YOUNG men of Philadelphia have started a club for the purpose of studying and writing poetry. After the club has grown sufficiently large, it might be made useful in braining the members.

ON EXHIBITION at Vallejo, Cal., is a goose-egg weighing ten ounces. If the egg is the pro-duct of one goose it is undoubtedly a great curiosity; but we suspect it is only the work of a newspaper liar.

FAUST.—" Tarde si fa—tarde si fa—"
MARGUERITE.—That's all right, Fausty. Fa
may be very tardy, but Pa isn't. Here he comes with a double-barreled duck-gun. (Exit Faust con spirito.)

"YELLOW IS a fashionable color in flowers stomach tried to skate.

this year," according to a fashion-writer. We shall probably hear soon of violets bleaching themselves, and roses taking arsenic for their complexion.

Some one has been telling the public concerning "the injury a man receives by standing on his hands," but neglects to apply any remedy for the man who holds a pot-flush or full hand.

LEBLANC, THE inventor of artificial sodawater, is to be honored with a monumental statue in Paris. We presume the movement will end in a fizzle. They usually do.

A RIME OF SIMPLICITY AND SORROW.



Deacon Berry had a wrinkled concertina, Which he used to sit and defily agitate,
Pulling out that sad and
sweet old song, 'Lorena,'
In a way that brought
a crowd about his gate. twas known from Aron-

stook to Carthagena That the Deacon's enstrument was out of tune, So he sent it, by his pretty daughter Lena,

Down to be repaired by Jedediah Koon

Had the good old Deacon paused, he might have seen a Safer way to send his music-box, I think; It deserved, in truth and honesty, I ween, a Better rest than in a roller-skating rink!

For the maid-a sweet and charming young verbena-Took it there and set it down in joyous mood, While she skated out upon the floor to lean a Pair of pretty hands upon her favorite dude.

Soon a girl came sprawling out of the arena,
And she planted both her feet—good sooth! alack!— In the stomach of the Deacon's concertina Till it groaned, and burst the wrinkles in its back!

ow—no more the Deacon plies the concertina Which he used to sit and deftly agitate, For he gave it, as a sort of philopeena Gift, to her who on its



THE BOY TRAGEDIAN.

An Episode Between Christmas and All-Fools' Day.

"Ha, ha, ha!"

It was the silvery laugh of little William Goldbright, errand-boy in the great City Firm of Grubstakes & Co., Railroad Bakers and Iron Moulders to the Oueen.

The engines made by Grubstakes & Co. bellowed and screamed in every factory, their anchors grappled the rocks of every harbor, their pies frowned from every lunch-counter in the realm. But rumor said that neither iron nor pie was harder than the heart of Grubstakes.

(Two pages showing up Old Grub; asking when he did a kind deed.)

(Two pages of fog driving in from the sea.) Down by the river the fog gathers on the windows of a dreary building, and, peeping in, becomes frost, as if it had seen a chilling sight; it collects itself on the discolored bricks and turns to sooty tears, which, dripping down the walls, creep over the once gilt letters of the long sign, Grubstakes & Co., and cover them with mould and rust and blackness.

Inside, an army of pale book-keepers. slight steam, arising from each ledger-laden desk, might give one the fancy that the pale book-keepers are cooking their accounts; but the steam is only the pale book-keepers' congealing breath.

"Ha, ha, ha!"

Again the errand-boy laughed. The glass door of the inner office opened and Grubstakes came forth.

"Who was that?" he roared: "Peachblow, who was it, sir?"

"It was I," said William Goldbright, advancing.

"What were you doing?"
"Laughing, sir."

"Laugh-ing! Peachblow, is the room too hot? Can it be the boy is warm in spite of me?"
"Not warm, I think," answered the head

book-keeper, sadly. "the boy has already

"Then, boy," growled Grubstakes: "why did you laugh? Speak or leave my service."

"Sir," began William: "I laughed from a full heart."

"You did!" sneered Grubstakes: "What filled your heart, as you call it?"

"A week ago, sir, my mother and I discovered a young girl, almost dying from starvation. She was scarcely nine years of age, sir, and her sufferings would have touched a harder heart than mine. Oh, sir, it was pitiful; and now, to-day, when by our aid she is well and strong, I could not forbear to express my joy."

"Is that all you laughed at?"

"No, sir, it is not; but I would not willingly parade my bounty before you who so scorn every generous impulse of the human heart;

"Speak, sir!"

"To-day I am to procure for that girl a little gift. It is to be a surprise from my mother and myself-a pair of roller-skates-and, oh, sir, if you could be there to see the glad look-

"Is that the whole cause of your ill-timed levity?" snarled Grubstakes, moved in spite of

himself.

"No, sir; it is not. I am not a man yet, but I love that homeless girl; and even now I look ahead to the day when I can say, 'Lucille '--'

" Lucille ?"

"Yes, sir," replied William, nobly: "if the name of that dear girl must be breathed in this office, where no kind word, no gentle thought,

"Hold!" cried Grubstakes: "Is her mother's name, also, Lucille?"

"It is, sir; and if you could but see—"
"Hold!" cried Grubstakes again: "Is the

girl's father living?"

"Alas! sir, he is not. Wishing to again surround his wife with the luxuries of which her cruel father had deprived her on their weddingday, he joined the army with the secret design of becoming a second lieutenant. But he was never quick of foot, sir, and in one of the hardfought battles of the war, when he was striving to reach some of the back counties for re enforcements, he was overtaken by a sprint-runner of the enemy and ruthlessly cut down. Mother and daughter are now alone; and to see their mutual sympathy—"
"Hold!" cried Grubstakes, with a sob: "do

you know nothing further of this woman and

child?"

"I do, sir. That kind lady is your daugher; that innocent child is your grand-daughter; but, although deserted by you, they are still my friends, and I tell you here, sir, that if your vindictiveness, unappeased after all these years,

still seeks to persecute its unhappy victims—"
"Hold!" cried Grubstakes: "Hold! Say no more. I admit my wrong, and I would atone for it. There is a new visitor in my heart, and I know not how to receive it. Counsel me, my friends, what I shall do. Having been a hard man, would it now be proper for me to send for my carriage, drive to my daughter's house, climb the creaking stair, knock gently at the door, seize the lady in my arms, kiss my grandchild and cry, 'Never shall you leave me more ' ?"

"It would," said the book-keepers. "Would I, probably, shed tears?"

"You would."

"Then what?" asked the stricken man.

"From that moment you begin a new life. You double our wages, find out our secret wants, (which your frank kindness will then easily win

"But," cried Grubstakes, in agony: "can I ever atone for the Past? I have been a hard man, have I not?"

"You have."

"I have brow-beaten and ill-paid you?"

"You have."

"I have coined your blood into gold, and those of you who were exhausted I have cast pitilessly aside?"

"You have." "I fear it is true," groaned Grubstakes: "but, as your honest faces are my witnesses, I will try to change. Only help me. Come, Peachblow, book-keepers all, come, let me take your hands. Say you forgive me."

THE PROFESSOR IS ENCOURAGING.



"Yah, dot girl of yours makes kreat brogress bei her moosic. Always before she vos two oder dree notes behint me, un' now is she always two oder dree notes ahet."

"We forgive you."

"Say, my faithful friends, that, crabbed, heartless, uncongenial as I am, I may sometimes sit by your firesides and learn the secret of true happiness."

You may."

"And there is another thing"—the old man's voice was breaking—"you will not mistrust me now: say that if it agrees with a certain plan I have made, you will allow me to deduct half of the last two months' salaries. Take time, my friends. Can you afford it?"
"We can."

"And can you still live? Think of the prattling babes and be frank."

"We can live happily, sir. Where there are blithe hearts—"

"Then, Peachblow, make out the checks.

Ah, this is, indeed, a new life. This -" (Two pages of this.)

Meanwhile the receipts were signed in full. "HA, HA, HA!" It was the silvery laugh of little William Gold-

bright, errand-boy in the great City Firm of Grubstakes & Co., Railroad Bakers and Iron Moulders to the Queen.

"What are you laughing at, my child?"

"At the sweet way we took 'em in."
"My faithful hearts," said Grubstakes: "you are, indeed, left."

Grubstakes was a hard man.

The fog drives in from the river, the great engines bellow and scream, the pastry lies thick upon the lunch-counters, but who is that lying under the gaslight, choked with a piece of railroad pie?

It is William Goldbright, the Boy Tragedian. WILLISTON FISH.

SHERIDAN has been in the terrible front of more than two score of battles, and never received a scratch; Wellington never was wounded in a hundred fights; Grant never was struck in all the long war in which he was the most prominent figure; but O'Gunnovan Rossa never was in a fight in his life, and yet he was brought down at the first shot. Verily, brethren, when the immortal gods go out gunning they know whom to hit .- Brooklyn Eagle.

A PROMINENT clergyman calls the face "the play-ground of the soul." Then a book-agent's cheek must be a prairie.- New York Journal.

"How are you getting along with your novel?" asked a friend of a struggling author.

" First-rate."

"When will it come out?"

"I don't know, exactly."
"I hope it will be a success."

"My dear sir," said the author: "it will be one of the most striking literary successes of the age."

"Has any great critic commended it?"

" No."

"Have you been offered a large sum for the copyright?"

"Oh. no."

Oh, no."

"Then why do you think that it will be a success?"

"Because it has been rejected by every publishing house in the country." — Arkansaw Traveler.

ESPENSCHEID'S SPRING HAT is of a very graceful pattern and style, and will cause successful bettors to wish that they had waited till now to receive their Cleveland tiles. 118 Nassau Street, New York.

Lundborg's Perfume, Edenia. Lundborg's Perfume, Maréchal Niel Rose. Lundborg's Perfume, Alpine Violet. Lundborg's Perfume, Lily of the Valey.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

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"None of your levity, young man; this is a serious matter."

"That's what dad thought when seventy-two per cent of his coal-pile disappeared during three nights of exposure. Then he asked my advice as a student in chemistry, and I told him to buy a dog. He bought a dog with baywindow teeth, and the spring-halt in his upper lip, and now we don't lose one per cent of our coal a month. That's the kind of practical chemist I am. Now go on with your theory."

— Chicago Herald.

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"BLESSED shade of Saint Crœsus!" howled Old Hyson, when Mrs. H.'s millinery bill came in: "Bank of the Universe! sixty-eight dollars for a bonnet!"

"Yes, dear," she said, so sweetly: "these

are the days of Jeffersonian simplicity. The bonnet only cost a dollar and a half; the rest is for the trimmings."

And the old man grinned and paid the bill without a murmur.—Brooklyn Eagle.

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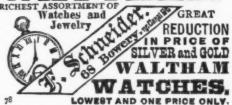
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The moonlight is fallin'-The sand-stars are pallin'—
The black wings of night are a-droopin' and trallin';
The wind's miserere Sounds lonesome and dreary:

The katydid 's dumb and the nightingale 's weary.

Oh, Nora! I'm wadin' The grass, and paradin'
The dews at your door, wid my swate serenadin';
Alone and forsaken,
Whilst you 're never wakin'
To tell me you 're wid me, and I am mistaken.

Don't think that my singin' It 's wrong to be flingin'
Forninst of the dreams that the angels are bringin'; For if your pure spirit
Might waken and hear it,
You 'd never be dreamin' the Saints could come near it.

Then lave off your slapin'-The pulse of me's lapin To have the two eyes of yez down on me papin'.

Ah, Nora! It 's hopin'

Your windy ye'll open
And light up the night where the heart of me's gropin'.

—J. W. Riley, in Indianapolis Journal.

THESE past few cold March days have brought out the "oldest inhabitant" with his recollections of cold days in '32" or thereabouts." And this reminds us that one day in March, '48, the ice was six feet thick. In an ice-house.- Norristown Herald.

A GARDENER near Mobile, Ala., is said to have raised ripe watermelons out of doors from seeds planted in December. This is a new method of utilizing doors; but, as our curiosity is aroused, we should like to see a door-seed.—Boston Post.

A COLORED preacher near Atlanta essayed to handle the text, "And de vale of de temple was rent in twine, the red twine, the blue twine and the yellow twine."—Lynn Bee.

WHEN traveling, the Prince of Wales, it is said, never carries a purse. It wouldn't do; some of his creditors might strike him.—Boston Post.

It is rumored that the sale of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup has taken uch dime sions that the proprietors are unable to supply all rders. We a twise our druggists to prepare themselves for all mergencies, as the people rely on them for this valuable remedy.

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"And this is Mr. Smith—"

"Ah! I suppose the catcher or pitcher?"

"Catcher or pitcher! Why, no; he's the

"Oh, I beg your pardon," he said, confusedly: "I thought the gentleman belonged to a base-ball club."—Boston Courier.

A BILL has been introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature compelling persons riding or driving to turn to the right, under penalty of five dollars fine. If the members of the Legis-lature were always to "keep to the right," it lature were always to "keep to the right," it would be money in the Commonwealth's pocket. -Norristown Herald.

THE golden days when the New England legislator used to "make expenses" and save his salary by sawing wood and carrying a din-ner-pail have passed away. But in Connecticut he still manifests a thrifty disposition by leasing his railroad-pass at two dollars per day .- Detroit Free Press.

A cook from the East who works for a city family has not become accustomed to our dark days. She has to make a chalk-mark on the cellar door to be sure at what meals to serve roast-beef and what to serve ham and eggs. Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

A SURGEON hospital announces "bent limbs made straight." If it can insure straight elbows it will do much for temperance.—New Orleans Picavune.

LIKE the worm, the roller-skate will turn when trod on .- Merchant Traveler.

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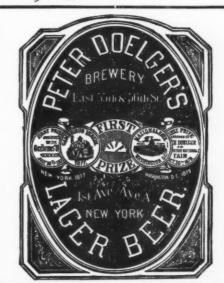
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